

Case 1:13-cv-05930-RJS Document 19-2 Filed 09/03/13 Page 2 of 3

Andrew M. Cuomo Governor

Benjamin M. Lawsky Superintendent

August 5, 2013

Great Plains Lending, LLC 1050 East 2nd St. P.O. Box 500 Edmond, OK 73034

Re: Illegal Online Payday Loans Offered and Sold to New York Consumers

Based upon an investigation by the New York State Department of Financial Services ("the Department"), it appears that Great Plains Lending, LLC and/or its subsidiaries, affiliates or agents are using the Internet to offer and originate illegal payday loans to New York consumers. This letter serves as notice that these payday loans violate New York's civil and criminal usury laws. Pursuant to the New York Financial Services Law, effective immediately, Great Plains Lending, LLC, its subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, successors and assigns are directed to **CEASE** & **DESIST** offering and originating illegal payday loans in New York.

Payday loans are short-term, small value loans typically structured as an advance on a consumer's next paycheck. The Department's investigation shows that payday loans that Great Plains Lending, LLC offers to New York consumers charge fees that, when annualized, carry an interest rate many times greater than the civil and criminal usury limits set by New York law. Great Plains Lending, LLC's solicitation or sale of these loans over the Internet to New York consumers is an attempt to evade New York law.

Under the New York General Obligations Law § 5-501 and the New York Banking Law § 14-a, it is civil usury for Great Plains Lending, LLC to make a loan or forbearance under \$250,000 190.40-42, Great Plains Lending, LLC commits criminal usury every time it makes a loan in Provisions of General Obligations Law § 5-511, usurious loans offered by non-bank lenders are void and unenforceable; therefore, collection of debts from payday loans violates New York Collection Practices Act. Further, insofar as Great Plains Lending, LLC has made payday loans which prohibits unlicensed non-bank lenders from making consumer loans of \$25,000 or less with an interest rate greater than 16 percent per annum.

Within 14 days of the date of this letter, Great Plains Lending, LLC is directed to confirm in writing to the Department that Great Plains Lending, LLC and its subsidiaries, affiliates or agents no longer solicit or make usurious loans in New York, and outline the steps taken to cease offering these loans to New York consumers. Should Great Plains Lending, LLC, its subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, successors or assigns fail to comply with this directive by August 19, 2013, the Department will take appropriate action to protect New York consumers. If you

Case 1:13-cv-05930-RJS Document 19-2 Filed 09/03/13 Page 3 of 3

have any questions regarding matters discussed in this letter, please contact Debra C. Brookes, Senior Counsel, at 212-709-1662.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin M. Lawsky

Superintendent of Financial Services